

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE

Index Bureau  
WASHINGTON  
RECEIVED

April 10, 1930.

APR 12 1930

Dept. of State

Hon. Wilbur J. Carr,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D.C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Action requested herein taken  
*3 p. Inst.*  
APR 17 1930  
*to Adm.*  
A-C/C  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

IN REPLY REFER TO 41e

APR 18 1930.

Attention: A-C/C.

My dear Mr. Carr:

The Transportation Division of this Bureau has received Despatch No. 331253, dated March 31, 1930, from the American Consul at Aden, Arabia, pertaining to railway conditions in Italian Somaliland.

The Consul indicates that there are no railways operating at this time in that area. According to previous reports, we were informed that there was a railway forty miles in length extending from Mogadiscio on the Coast to Bivio-Adalei.

It would be appreciated if the Consul would advise us as to whether or not the above mentioned line has been abandoned entirely and the tracks pulled up.

Very truly yours,

*Robert J. Phillips*

Robert J. Phillips,  
Liaison Officer.

APR 18 1930

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70 8658-771

April 18, 1930

To the American Vice Consul,  
Aden, Arabia.

The Acting Secretary of State refers to the Vice Consul's report of March 3, 1930, RAILWAY CONDITIONS IN ITALIAN SOMALILAND, and encloses a copy of a letter (41e) dated April 10, from the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, requesting information regarding a railway forty miles in length said to have extended from Mogadiscio to Bivio-Adalei. The Bureau asks, in view of the Consul's negative report, whether or not the line mentioned has been entirely abandoned and the tracks removed.

The answering despatch, in quintuplicate, should cite the date and file number of this instruction and the date and reference number of the Bureau's letter.

Enclosure:

Copy of letter from the  
Bureau of Foreign and  
Domestic Commerce, dated  
April 10, 1930.

865b.77/1

A-513: [Signature] 2

CR  
CR  
Apr. 18 1930

765b.77/1

No. 249.

AM RECD

5406

INDEX BUREAU  
AMERICAN CONSULATE,  
Aden, Arabia,  
DEPT. OF STATE

August 26, 1930.

SUBJECT: Railways in Italian Somaliland.

1-1065 GPO

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

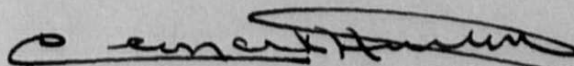
WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to refer to the Department's instruction dated April 18, 1930, file No. 865b.77/1, in which the Consulate, in view of its report dated March 3, 1930, stating that no railways were in operation in Italian Somaliland, was asked whether or not the railway between Mogadiscio and Bivio-Adalei had been discontinued.

The Consulate has now learned, after unavoidable delay, that its original information on this subject was wrong and that the Mogadiscio railway was actually in operation during 1929. Such information as is now available is given in the Consulate's report thereon under date of today.

Respectfully yours,



Cloyce K. Huston  
American Vice Consul

File No. 877.  
CKH/MSM

FC

865B.77/2

INDEX BUREAU

SEP 23 1930

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Required Report

Reference: Department's Instruction of January 20, 1930,  
 file no. 800.77/200, letter (7) to the Department  
 from the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Com-  
 merce dated January 11, 1930, and ques-  
 tionnaire no. 299.



Index Bureau  
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SEP 18 1930

Dept. of State

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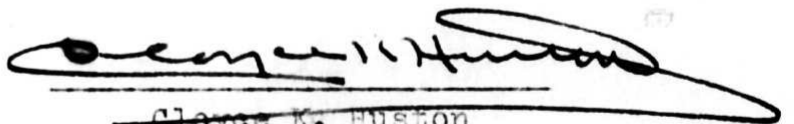
BUREAU  
 865B.77/3

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M SEP 30 1930

RAILWAYS IN ITALIAN SOMALILAND

From: Vice Consul



Gleyce K. Huston

American Consulate, Aden, Arabia.

DATE OF COMPLETION: August 26, 1930.

DATE OF MAILING: August 27, 1930.

The only information that has thus far become  
 available regarding railways in Italian Somaliland  
 is contained in the following extract from a letter  
 received

received from the Italian Consulate in Aden.

- "1. In Italian Somaliland are in operation, at present, the Mogadiscio railway, Afgoi, Bivio, Bushi, Adalei, Gherale, Villaggio Duca degli Abruzzi.
2. The total length of line is Km.113.
3. During the year 1928-29 the total number of passengers carried are 13929, and the cargo quintali\* 1.148.895,93.

\*quintali equals 100 pounds".

Further inquiries have been made and such additional information as may come to hand will be forwarded promptly.

File No. 877.  
CKH/NSM

Central File: Decimal File 865B.77, Internal Affairs Of States, Somaliland, Railway. Concessions. Construction. Equipment., April 10, 1930 - August 26, 1930. April 10 - August 26, 1930. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109731411%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC](https://link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5109731411%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC). Accessed 18 June 2025.